

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry so-called documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. This so-called news documentary is actually nothing more than unregulated political advertising.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest not private corporate interests. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy and end up with homogenized, sanitized program devoid of insight and content from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. The FCC is the steward of the public airways and is mandated to protect the public interests not corporate profits. Thank you.